

THE
SPANIARDS
PERPETVALL
DESIGNES TO
AN VNIVERSALL
MONARCHIE.

Translated according to
the French.

Printed 1624.

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PROGRESSE OF THE
Conquests of the King of SPAIN,

and House of Austria in Germany, Swit-
zerland, the Grisons Countie, Italy, and
the Frontiers of France, since
the death of Henry
the Great.

THE Spaniards continually pursuing the
advancement of their universall Monarchy,
(the first foundation whereof were laid by
Charles the first, since which time that de-
signe hath been still eagerly prosecuted,) have bin
so happy in their endeavours in these last 10 or 12
yeares in divers parts of Europe: and particularly
neere to the borders of France, that there remaines
very little for them to conquer; to encompassse
it on all sides, and so by little and little to make
themselves Majestrates and Arbiters of Christen-
dome.

And to begin with the last and freshest of their
Conquests; Besides the *Palatine* Electorall dignity,
which they have put into the hands of one of their
confidants: they have conquered by Armes all the
Palatinate, both on this side and beyond the *Rhine*;
and within, or neere it, many Citties and strong
places, whereof divers are Imperiall free Townes,
as namely *Wormbs*, *Spire*, *Landaw*, *Haguenaw*, *Wissem-
bourg*, *Fridberg*, *Gailbassen*, *Wetzlar*, and others:
together with a good part of the Countrey of *Han-
man*, and of the Countrey of *Wetteraw*, wherein are

The Spaniards perpetuall designe,

many Countie and Lords neighbours, and Allies to the Prince Elector *Palatine*; whose Brother and Cousins haue beene no more spared then the rest, though not comprehended in the Imperiall Ban, their Lords and Lordships being seized on, together with the Iouneues of the innocent widdow Princesses. This notable conquest, to take it from *Mentz* and *Hagenaw* on the one side, and the countries of *Trier* and *Lorraine* one the other, and from *Frankfort* almost close to *Strasbourg*, contains in length more then 50. French leagues, and in breadth Fortie. And they still continue to make some progresse about the *Palatinate*, vnder colour of passages or other presents: and procede in their secret practises vpon diuers other Imperiall Townes, especially that of *Strasbourg*, (a great and strong place, and of the ancient patrimony of our first Kings) and likewise vpon the Towne of *Besensow*, to establish a Parliament there, or transerre thither that of *Dole*. As in the time of *Phillip* the second, the Admirall of *Aragon* presumed to aske the Vicariat of that Towne for the King his Master; but it was denied him by the Emperor *Rudolph* the second. And of late the Ministers of *Spain* haue offered money for certaine places in the Bishopricke of *Liege*, for no other end but that we euen now speak of. But that which is most monstrous, is the quarrell they make with the Elector of *Brandenbourg*, seeking an occasion to make him likewise loose his Electorat, although that Prince hath all this time remained neutriall, and kept intelligence with the Elector of *Saxony*, who at one time or other will
scape

ſcape no better then the reſt, though he hath aſſiſted
the Emperours with his Armes and Counſells, to
the prejudice of his neere kindred, whom he daily
ſees to be turned naked to the world.

All men know that not long before this, the *Spaniards*
had made themſelves Maſters of all that
Countrie which lies betweene the Rivers of the
Meuſel and the *Rhine*, from the Townes of *Liege* and
Cullen, to *Numeſgen* in *Gaulderland*; and eſpecially
of the free and Imperiall Townes of *Aix-la-Chap-
pell* and *Metz*; notwithstanding the interceſſion of
the King and Queene Mother then Regent, both
by frequent Letters and Ambaſſadours ſent expreſsly
for that buſineſſe. And they have ſince taken by
composition the Townes and Fortreſſes of *Juliers*,
and hold entirely the Dutches of *Luſſers* and *Berg*,
together with all the Townes and places of the
Grand Comte de Marke, and the Countie of *Rouenſ-
berg*, with two thirds of the Duchie of *Clèves*, on
this ſide and beyond the *Rhine*, and the moſt part of
it vnder the Duke of *Newbourg* name. But the
Spaniards having their gariſons there, the good
Prince can neither enjoy the places nor the revenue,
but in very ſmall propoſition. And notwithstanding
all his endeavours and diligence, uſed at *Bruxells*,
for freeing himſelfe from thoſe gariſons, yet cannot
he hitherto obtaine or prevaile with them in any
thing, though he be a Catholike, their friend, and
Allie. This conqueſt is not much leſſe worth to
the *Spaniards*, then that of the lower *Palatinate*, al-
well for the approach which foot by foot they
make towards *Holland*: as for the extent of theſe
Countries,

The Spaniards perpetuall designe,

Countries, which one with another, from the towne of *Aix-la-Chapell* to *Lipstat*, the last place of the Countie *De la Marke*, and from thence to the Towne of *Cleues*, amounts vnto aboue fourescore *French* leagues in length, and about 50 in breadth. And this without accounting the Fort of *Pappemuntz*, situate in an Isle of the *Rhine* on this side *Callen*, lately conquered by the *Spaniards*, and by them Christened with the name of *Isabella*. And in a word, either by association, or by the conuenience of the Electors of *Mentz* and *Cologne*: or by their proper conquests, they may call themselues Masters of the great Riuer of *Rhine*, from the Towne of *Stratsbourg*, yea euen from *Brisacke* and *Basle*, to *Rees* and *Emmerike*, Townes in the Land of *Cleue*, not farre distant from the mouth of that River.

Furthermore, who knowes not the designes of the *Spaniards* vpon the Countrie of the *Grisons*, and how the Archduke *Leopold* on the one side, and the Gouvernour of *Millaine* on the other, haue possesse themselues of the greatest part of those Countries, hauing put garrisons into *Coyre*, *Mayensfeld*, *Pretigau*, and all other places of the one and other *Engadine*, euen close to the Canton of *Zurich*: where the Arch-duke intends to erect a Fort in a certaine place called *Steig*, thereby to bridle the *Swixers*, and keepe an entrance into the Countrey. And towards *Millaine* they haue seized vpon the Counties of *Chiavenna* and *Pregaglia*, and the long and fertile valley of the *Val-telina*, (the two ends whereof ioyned *Millaine* and *Tirol*) which is the subiect of the present difference betweene the King of *Spaine* on the
one

on side, and the Crowne of *France*, the States of *Venice*, *Savoy*, and generally all *Italy*, the *Switzers* and *Grisons* on the other side.

They haue also seized on the Counties of *Bromio* and *Valmesolcina*, a faire and large valley neere *Bellinzona*, towards the Frontiers of *Italy*: and now of late upon the Countie of *Musico*, under the title of of the Count of *Trinulce* his pretence: the foresaid Conquests making altogether, to reckon from *Mayensfeld* to *Bormio*, and from thence to the Fort *Fuentes* at the least, 40 *French* leagues in length, and more the 30 in breadth, as it may evidently appeare by *Clauertius* his Map of *Rhatia*. And although the present Pope, being now depositary of the most parts of these Forts and places, labours with the King of *Spain* for restoring all things vnto there former estate, according to the *French* Kings desire, yet cannot he attaine vnto it.

And for *Italy*, it is true that the late King of *Spain* in the yeare 1611, had made himselfe Master of the Towne of *Sassello*, and placed a garrison there: but vpon the complaint and request of the Republique of *Genoa*, restored it to the former State. Neuerthelesse in *Monaco*, and the Towne and Castle of *Correggio*, the *Spaniards* keepe a strong Garrison. They haue also newly erected the Fort of *Sandonal*, vpon the Frontier of *Piedmont*, towards *Verce*. And concerning the Sates of *Milan*, *Final*, *Plumbin*, and other *Fiefs* which the King of *Spain* holds of the Empire, he hath vpon the instance of his Ambassador resident at *Vinna*, received
solemne

The Spaniards perpetuall designe,

solemne investiture thereof by the Emperour 1551.
And besides, the States of *Spain* and *Sevill* are
threatned by him, as well for the misunderstanding
and differences past, as for this new dispute and
quarrell touching the *Palatine*, wherein the greatest
part of the Potentates of *Italy*, and the Pope him-
self are also interested.

And to make his way by little and little amongst
the leagues of the *Switzers* and *Grisons*, (peoples
formerly so obliged and affectionate to the Crowne
of *France*, as they did in a manner reject all other
Alliances) the *Spaniards* hath by money, promises
and practises, divided them into Factions, thereby
to weaken that body which subsists not but by their
vnion, and to be able to bring them against *France*,
it selfe, and other neighbouring States. The
Spaniards haue done as much vnder diuers pretenses
in the Countie of *Faley*, and Bishopricke of *Sion*,
having likewise possessed themselves of the passages
of *Switzerland*, thereby to haue the wayes free and
cleere for their Armies to passe from *Italy* to *Flan-
ders*: which before they were constrained to beg
from the Duke of *Savoy*, or the leagues of *Switzer-
land*.

To returne to *Germany*, it is very considerable that
the conquests made by the Duke of *Bavaria*, as well
in the upper *Palatinate* which he hath gotten entire-
ly into his possession, as in the lower *Palatinate*, and
all of them to the advantage of the House of *Austria*,
this Prince being neere Allie, and obliged to that
House, by the translation of the Electorate vpon
his person, and other benefits lately receiued from
the

the Emperour. So that to favour that Duke, in hope either to bring him into suspicion with the Emperour, or to draw profit from him against the haire, considering how strictly they are all linked together in interest, and affection the one to the other; and in giving such a Councell, there must be want of integrity, or pure ignorance of the present State of the affaires of *Germany*. The like must be said of the Children of the Marquis *Edward Fortunat*, to whom the Marquisat of *Baden* hath beene lately adiudged by the Emperour, against and in prejudice of their Cousen the Marquis of *Dautlach*, who is now turned out of it, which is an extent of land somewhat considerably betweene the Townes of *Strasbourg* and *Basle*, on the one side, and the *Palatinate* and Dutchie of *Wirtemberg* on the other.

They have likewise since a few Moneths possesse themselves of a good part of the *Langraviat* of *Hesse*, vnder colour of a sentence given by the Emperour, in favour of the *Langrave Louis* of *Darmstadt*, against his Cousen the *Langrave Maurice* of *Kassel*, (an ancient Allie and confident of the Crowne of *France*) upon their difference touching the Towne of *Marsburg*, and the countrey about it. And so by little and little they proceede, getting footing in the Prouinces of *Germany*, and oppressing the libertie of the Princes and Cities of the Empire: thereby to make it hereditary in their House; as they doe the Kingdomes of *Hungarie* and *Bohemia*, (which those peoples haue euermore maintained to be meereley Electiue .) together with the Prouinces of *Moravia*, *Silesia*, and *Lusatia*, incorporated to

The Spaniards perpetuall designe,

the Kingdome of *Bahemia*, and newly reconquered by Armes and other meanes; so the great increasing of the House of *Austria*, and exceeding great advantage of their designes.

We will not speake here of the Townes and Fortresses of *Arache*, *Mamora*, and others in the Kingdome of *Fen*, surpris'd or conquered by the *Spaniard* since a few yeares, because they are far distant, and of lesse consideration to *France*. But touching the Fort of *Grauelines*, which they still aduance; and with by snatches bring it to perfection: we must blame our selues if we suffer it. But it would be a farre worse matter, if the *Spaniard* should conclude the Treaty of Marriage with *England*, for the reasons which every man may vnderstand; for if the onely Negotiation touching that Alliance, hath given the *Spaniards* time and meanes to subdue the best and greatest part of all *Germany*; and to push their designes so forward; what other thing can be expected from the accomplishment of the marriage, but that in the end we must receiue Law from the Conquerour, and so loose the prerogative of this glorious title, anciently worne by our Kings; of Protectors of the liberty of *Germany*, and which is more, of Arbiters of Christendome: besides the fruit which we see lost before our eyes: of so many Millions employed since too, or 20 yeares, to entertaine our Allies the *Switzers* and *Grisons*; and other our friends and confederates; And of the expence made at the siege of *Juliers*; to put it into the possession of the lawfull heires of the House of *Spain*, whom the *Spaniards* laboured to dispossesse,

to an *Univerſall Monarchie.*

and to take it themſelves: as they have now done
10 years afterwards. For which notwithstanding,
our ill affected Frenchmen have profeſſed publike
joy, although this place was formerly delivered to
the late *Marſhall de la Chastre*, generall of the Kings
Army, being for the moſt part Catholicke.

It muſt be alſo taken into conſideration, that the
Spaniards who for 10 years hath by divers writings
continually blamed our Treaties, which the *Turke*
doth now himſelfe ſeek that Alliance with much
inſtance. The laſt from *Conſtantinople* beare, that
one *Antonio Barili*, a Dominican Friar, who had bin
there ſecretly twice before, was againe returned
thither, with two others in his company: and that
he hath been zealouſly ſeconded and aſſiſted in pur-
ſue of this peace, by the Emperours Miniſters that
were then at the Port: and now lately by one *Curiz*,
who for this end hath carried thither a good ſumme
of money; of all which the Grand *Vizier* himſelfe,
gaue advertiſement to ſome Ambaſſadors reſident
at the Port; and oppoſite to the *Spaniſh* Party, judg-
ing this deſigne of the Emperor and King of *Spaine*
to be for no other end, then by this Peace to have
the better meanes and leaſure to go through with

would yearly ſave the charge of 10 m. men kept in Garriſon, vpon the Coaſtes of
Naples, Sicily, Sardinia, and theſe Iſlands, and of 60 Gallies, in which are of Souldiers
and Slaues well nigh 10 m. more: All which great ſtrength, the King of *Spaine* is forced
with a vaſt expence, continually to maintaine for his owne ſafety and defence againſt the
Turke. And it is conſiderable that this propoſition of Peace, is made in a time when the
necceſſities of the *Turkiſh* affaires, in regard of the preſent Rebellions and diſoidres in
their Empire, threatening ruine, or at leaſt ſome notable alteration, might make the offer
acceptable. And that for the ſaid reſpects, it could not for the preſent be either dangerous,
or uſeleſſe for the King of *Spaine*; but would be of infinite aduantage to the progreſſe of his
affaires in theſe parts, if ſo great forces as are now onely maintained for a meere defence,
without attempting any thing, ſhould be drawne forth into an active employment.

4 By a Peace
with the Grand
Signiour of the
King of *Spaine*,

their

their businesse and conquests in *Europe*: and by degrees make themselves strong enough to vndertake the *Turke*, and then carrie their Armes into the *Leuants*. And to this end it is their writers publish, that it is necessary there should be but one vniuersall and absolute Monarch in Christendome, and that it should be the King of *Spain*, who is the mightiest, and who by their report hath the best mirrored of the Apostolicke Sea, and of all Christendome.

For their pretences, either vpon *France* in general, drawing a descent of the Princes of the house of *Austria*, in a direct line from Male to Male, from *Merone*, *Childeric*, and other Kings of *France*, of the first race called *Merovingiens*: thereby inferring that the Kingdome belongs to them. Or vpon the Provinces of *Burgundy* and *Brittany* in particular; These falsehoods haue beene lately solidly refuted by one of our most excellent and learned Antiquaries. And touching their pretences vnto other Kingdomes, and particularly to *England*, the care and refutation thereof is to be left to those who haue most interest therein. The euidence of these pretences which haue beene seconded by reall vndertakings and attempts, appears sufficiently in *Heretick History* of *Phillip* the second of *Spain*; in *Cabrera*, and in *Camille Borrell*, his Booke touching the prerogatiue and digniry of the Catholicke King.

Our *France* being therefore environed on all sides with the Territories and Dominions of the *Spaniard*, and House of *Austria*, either of their ancient domaine, or new conquests, (which hath bin made in so short a time, as it seemes a thing prodigious)

The Spaniards perpetual designe,

our) this State hauing thereby lost all its outworkes and bulwarkes: that is, the best and most powerfull friends and Allies: it seemes to be more then high time to awake out of this deepe and fatall *Lethargie*, whereinto our *France* is fallen by the disastrous death of our great *Henry*, and seriously to looke to our conuersation, by taking it into due consideration, that if the *Spaniard* should now pick a quarrell with vs, and assaile vs againe: as in the time of the league, when *Phillip* the second would haue had this Crowne put vpon his Daughters head, in preiudice of our *Salique* Law: the passages by Land would on all sides be shut vp against vs, so as we could not be relieved either with men or money from *Germany*, *Switzerland*, or *Italie*: as was our late King in his great necessities. And on the contrary, all the Princes and people subiect to the *Spaniard*, and those whom he hath lately subdued vnto him, who were formerly our friends, and fauoured vs: will be constrained and bound to assist and and serue against vs, and many of them to their great griefe.

Yet is it not meant that recourse should presently be had vnto Armes, and the publique peace broken, as if so great a King in so powerfull a kingdome as this is, had no other meanes to protect the afflicted. The late King in the like case, without applying those violent remedies, hath by his wisdom sufficiently shewed the way; as when by a serious interposition of his credit and authority, he accommodated the difference betweene the *Pope* and the *Papists*: or when by his liberallity he succoured

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those

those who besought his helpe: or when by man-
ces, he gaue cause of apprehension to those that
would oppresse his friends and Allies. And these
are the meanes that ought to be vsed in the first
place, before the way of open force be taken; all
warres how iust so euer, being both ruinous and
hazardous.

True it is that the peace of this State, the vnion
and concord of the people in a due obedience to our
King, and the conduct of a wise Councell, that
knowes how to resume the wise Councells and
Maximes of *Henry* the great; and the former state
of a good intelligence, with the most sincere friends
and ancient confederats of this Crowne, are the first
and principall remedies of this euill: yea, the sur-
preme way for restoring this puluant and
once flourishing Kingdome, to its
ancient splendor, strength,
and authoritie.

FINIS

